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SUMMARY
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ON THE APPLICATION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE LESS DEVELOPED AREAS

SUMMARY

Agenda Item : H.1

France

THE FORECAST FOR EMPLOYMENT IN FRANCE

By Jean FOURASTIE

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THE FORECAST FOR EMPLOYMENT IN FRANCE.

by Jean FOURASTIE.

Introduction

Necessity for close liaison between planning being done at the national level and employment forecasting.

First Part

General comments on the problem of forecasting employment.

Economic stability is in the end, a balance between production and consumption, both influenced by technical progress which distorts them. These distortions can only be corrected by a shift in manpower. Therefore, during a period of economic growth, there is incompatibility between full employment and stable employment.

An attempt at a classification of products and branches according to the effects brought about by variations in productivity and consumption.

Second Part

Forecasting techniques.

a) Quantitative global forecasts
b) Qualitative forecasts by area of activity

1) Analytical methods of forecasting. The principle is to study separately the evolution of each one of the factors which influence production (productivity, consumption, external trade, etc.); the combination of all these factors then makes it possible to determine the desirable type of employment in each area of activity.

2) Global methods of forecasting, based on either the prolongation of earlier employment trends in each branch or on hypotheses concerning the evolution of certain related factors (employment/production, employment/national income, etc.)

In conclusion, external trade as an important source of risks involved in employment forecasting is stressed.